

thecollegian

GAMEDAYGUIDE TEVASTECH

friday, october 26, 2012

K-STATE VS. TEXAS TECH

KICKOFF AT 2:30 PM







By the numbers

Nicholas Wahl

K-State's rank, among Big 12 teams, in not allowing opponents' to score red zone touchdowns by percentage

Wildcat opponents have only managed to find the end zone on 11 of 26 attempts inside the 20-yard line. If field goals are included opponents still only score on 18 of 26 attempts as well. Texas Tech has scored touchdowns on 27 of 36 red-zone tries this season; good for second in the conference. The red zone could be where this game is won or lost.

K-State's average turnover margin season

The Wildcats are top in the Big 12 Conference in this category, taking possession away from opponents 17 times while only coughing it up four times. Texas Tech ranks near the bottom of the conference with a margin of negative .14. The Red Raiders turned the ball over three times in their only loss of the season, a 41-21 defeat at the hands of Oklahoma.

The number of penalties the Wildcats have committed

K-State ranks first in the Big 12 and third in the country, committing both the fewest

number of penalties and the fewest number of yards penalized, with 26.9 per game. In contrast, Texas Tech ranks near the bottom of the conference. They have drawn 50 flags this season for an average of 67 yards per game, which puts them at ninth in the Big 12 and 102nd in the country. Home field advantage may end up being a huge factor; the Wildcat crowd may play a role in disrupting the Red Raiders during the ballgame.

Collin Klein's completion percentage against the . Mountaineers

More widely known as a rushing quarterback, Klein took his game to the next level by completing 19 of 21 passes in the 55-14 win over West Virginia. When he is able to throw the ball like he did, defenses can't afford to just focus on the Wildcats rushing attack, making them nearly impossible to stop on offense. While it is unlikely that he will complete 91 percent of his passes in every game for the rest of the season, Klein's passing efficiency may be enough to keep Texas Tech from stacking the box, which in turn could open

The average number of rushing yards allowed per game by Texas Tech

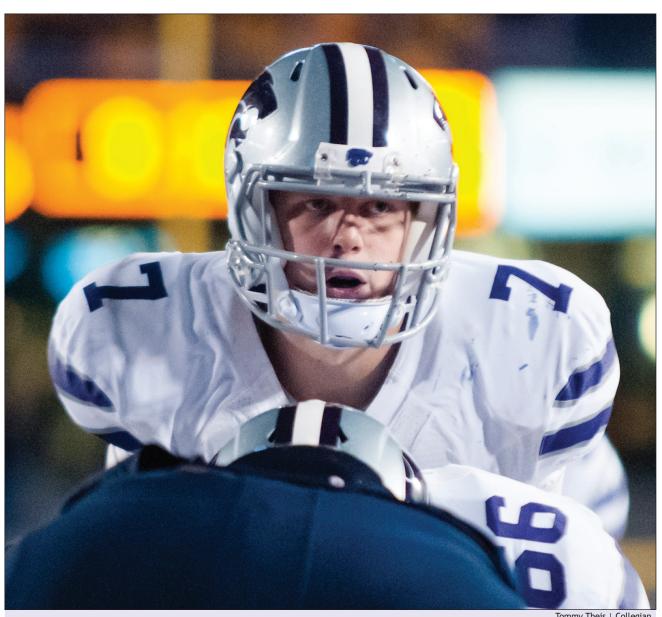
up the rushing attack.

In the Big 12, the Red Raiders trail only TCU and K-State in this category. They also rank third in yards per carry allowed at 3.28. With K-State averaging over 245 yards rushing per game, this strength versus strength matchup will be interesting. While the Wildcats have never been accused of being pass-happy, they have been extremely efficient. Tech's run defense could force K-State into more passing situations than they would like.

The average number of passing yards allowed by the Red Raiders this season

Though it has not forced a plethora of turnovers this year, with 10, the Texas Tech defense has been stingy when it comes to giving up yardage. Opponents only manage an average of 282 yard per game against the Red Raiders, which is best in the conference. When it comes to pass defense, the Red Raiders have held opponents to just 5.3 yards per completion this season, which is also best in the Big 12.

Klein taking offense to new level



Senior quarterback Collin Klein reads the defense as he prepares to take a snap from the center in the Wildcats' 55-14 victory on Saturday in Morgantown. K-State's win moved the team to No. 3 in the BCS poll and pushed Klein to the front of the Heisman Trophy race.

Mark Kern sports editor

When people talked about quarterback Collin Klein in the beginning of the season, all they talked about was his ability to run the ball and his unconventional throwing motion.

After the performance he put on last week in Morgantown, W.Va., however, he has shown the rest of the country that he is not a one-dimensional quarterback.

Throughout the Fox broadcast, sportscaster Gus Johnson kept saying, "I thought this guy couldn't throw the ball."

While he has made improvements throughout the season to his mechanics and accuracy, Saturday's game proved to the country that he can make all the throws necessary. In that game, Klein completed 19-of-21 for 323 yards and three touchdowns, while also doing his usual work on the ground with 41 rushing

yards and four touchdowns. On the season, Klein is second in the country in pass-

ing efficiency at 175.8 and to contribute and make those "We have a lot of weapons. It helps everybody when you have a lot of guys that are able to contribute and make those

plays. It's a fun group to be a part of."

senior quarterback

yards per attempt with 10.1, and has thrown 10 touchdowns compared to only two interceptions on the season.

While his throwing release has a little bit of a hitch in it, you still cannot argue with the improvements and results thus far on the season. A lot of his elevated play has been because of players on the offensive end such as wide receivers Tyler Lockett and Chris Harper. Klein is the first person to give his receivers a lot of the plays," Klein said. "It's a fun group to be a part of."

"We have a lot of weapons.

It helps everybody when you

have a lot of guys that are able

His ability to throw the ball has made the Wildcats even tougher to stop when running the ball, where they rank 14th in the country, averaging just under 234 yards a game. In the past few seasons, opposing teams have been able to load up the box to stop the run, but this season, they cannot afford to take that risk.

While the offense has been great thus far in the season, head coach Bill Snyder said he thinks it can get even better.

"I think the umbrella to all of it is virtually the same thing. I think it is their approach to the game and to their preparation," Snyder said. "I think it is how their coaches prepare them. I thought our players responded well in this past ballgame in that regard, but again, there is an awful lot of improvement that they need to make."

The Wildcats are currently ranked 10th in the country in scoring, averaging 42.9 points per game. Much of this improvement is because of the continued progression of the Heisman candidate at quar-

The Red Raiders, like every other team, will try and force Klein to throw the ball and beat them that way, rather than allowing the Wildcats to run the ball. If the trip to Morgantown was any kind of preview, Klein and this third-ranked Wildcat team will be ready for the bigtime challenge.

Red Raiders achieving balance on defense, offense

Adam Suderman staff writer

In past seasons, there has been very little dispute about what Texas Tech was capable of statistically with its high-powered passing attack.

With an offense led by senior quarterback Seth Doege, the Red Raiders have consistently shown the ability to score quickly. Finding a defense that could provide some stops has also been a problem in the past, but this season they just might have found their

An altered defensive coaching staff, including new defensive coordinator Art Kaufman, is just one part of why the Red Raiders find themselves in the top three in overall team defense through conference play.

K-State head coach Bill Snyder says the staff changes have provided obvious schematic differences in the Red Raiders.

"They are extremely high-quality coaches, and they have made a major difference in the defensive structure of Texas Tech," Snyder said in his weekly press conference on Tuesday. "They play hard, which is also a great asset, and they are awfully good about not giving up substantial plays. I think they play an aggres-sive style of defense from their front to the back end."

The expectations were quite low for the Red Raider defensive unit heading into this season, but after a strong performance through their non-conference games, little has happened to reveal any glaring weaknesses in the group.



Brad Tollefson | The Daily Toreador

Texas Tech quarterback **Seth Doege** runs with the ball during the Red Raiders' 56-53 victory against the TCU Horned Frogs on Saturday at Amon G. Carter Stadium in Fort Worth.

After a convincing home win against West Virginia and a triple-overtime victory against conference newcomer TCU, the Red Raiders have themselves in a position to play a significant factor in conference standings.

Texas Tech's one loss against Oklahoma did little to alter its defensive stats despite losing by 21 points.

K-State sophomore receiver Curry Sexton said that Texas Tech stands out this year in a way that most are not used to.

"Everybody is accustomed to Texas Tech being a high-flying

offense similar to what we saw last week [against West Virginia], but what is different with Texas Tech this year compared to that past is that they have a really solid defense," Sexton said. "We are not just up here saying that. Their defense leads the Big 12 in most statistical categories, and they are playing well across the board.

Texas Tech senior defensive back Cody Davis holds a substantial lead in team tackles with 49 solo stops on the season. Along with defensive back Cornelius Douglas, each player sits in the top five in interceptions through

conference play. Tommy Tuberville, Texas Tech head coach, said that although there has been improvement, the

unit still has a lot of work to do. "Defensively we're still in that elementary mode of guys learning to play their positions," Tuber-ville said. "Like last week we gave up a third and 20 for a 60-yard pass. I can expect them to catch a ball in that situation with a little over a minute to go, but not for a touchdown. It's just grasping the moment and understanding on defense what we need to do."



MATCHING UP





Tommy Theis | Collegian

Nigel Malone, senior cornerback, tackles **Allen Hurns** of Miami in the Wildcats' 52-13 victory on Sept. 8 at Bill Snyder Family Stadium. Malone will have the test of trying to slow down Texas Tech wide receiver Alex Torres this weekend.



Brad Tollefson | The Daily Toreador

Texas Tech wide receiver **Alex Torres** catches the ball with TCU safety **Chris Hackett** hot on his heels during the Red Raiders' 56-53 victory against the Horned Frogs on Saturday at Amon G. Carter Stadium in Fort Worth.

Corbin McGuire

K-State rushing offense vs. Texas Tech rushing defense: Edge — K-State

The Wildcat rushing offense offers Texas Tech its biggest challenge of the season. The Red Raiders' defense, while much improved from years past, has yet to face an offense with as much balance and explosiveness as the Wildcats offer. Collin Klein and John Hubert alone are a handful, but backup running back Angelo Pease has also started to see more action. In their 56-53 triple-overtime victory over TCU, the Red Raiders gave up 184 rushing yards and over 500 yards of total

offense to a backup quarterback that was the team's third-string running back at the beginning of the season. With Klein's patience running the ball, look for the Wildcats to have a big game on the ground.

K-State passing offense vs. Texas Tech passing defense: Edge — Push

While Collin Klein continues to show strides passing the ball, the Red Raiders come into Saturday's game ranked 12th in the NCAA in pass defense. The Red Raiders' signature win against Geno Smith and the West Virginia Mountaineers offense, however, looks a little less convincing after the Wildcats handed the Mountaineers a similar loss at home. Regardless, Klein will have to be sharp to move the ball through the air against an improved secondary.

Texas Tech rushing offense vs. K-State rushing defense: Edge — K-State

The Red Raiders have three running backs receiving consistent carries – Kenny Williams, Eric Stephens, and SaDale Foster – but none average over 65 yards per game. The Wildcat defense has only allowed one runner to gain more than 100 yards against them all season. K-State has done a great job of forcing teams to become one-dimensional, and look for senior

quarterback Seth Doege to put the ball in the air a lot.

Texas Tech passing offense vs. K-State passing defense: Edge — Push

K-State's secondary is undeniably better than a season ago, but the success Seth Doege had in the air against the Wildcats last season – 43 of 63 for 461 yards – can't be ignored. The Wildcats were able to pull out a victory in Lubbock, Texas, last season thanks to three Doege interceptions. If Doege can manage to limit turnovers, the Red Raider offense will force the Wildcats to play some very solid defense.

Special teams: Edge — K-State

Ryan Doerr has been money with his punts all season, hitting eight punts inside the opponent's 20yard line and Anthony Cantele has missed only one of 10 field goals on the season. Tyler Lockett is always a threat to take a kickoff return to the house and Tramaine Thompson has proven to be a special team's threat as well. Texas Tech has been mediocre in this facet of the game; kicker Ryan Bustin has only completed 73 percent of his field goal attempts and punter Ryan Erxleben has pinned opposing teams inside their 20-yard line only three times this season.

PREDICTION: K-STATE 28-17



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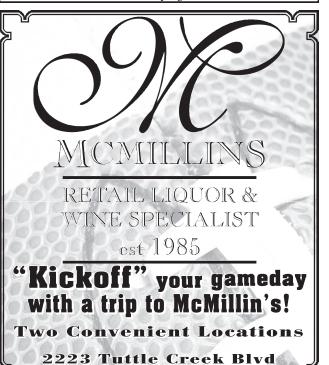
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Week 9 games to watch: SEC showdown

Mark Kern sports editor





NO. 10 GEORGIA AT NO. 2 FLORIDA

In one of the fiercest rivalries in college football, the Georgia Bulldogs have a chance to get right back in the SEC and national title races by knocking off their archrival, the Florida

After getting blown out 35-7 by South Carolina three weeks ago, the Bulldogs looked like they were in trouble. Despite not playing well defensively, the Bulldogs have gotten back to their winning ways, in large part to junior quarterback Aaron

Murray leads one of the better offenses in the country, and teaming with the rushing duo of Todd Gurley and Keith Marshall, the Bulldogs are capable of both throwing and rushing the ball. This type of balanced offensive attack will be huge against a very

good Florida defense. The Gators have been dominant on defense, giving up only 17 points in back-to-back wins over top-25 teams South Carolina and LSU. The Gators are one of the fastest defenses in the country, and make things easier for their offense, who themselves sometimes struggle to score.

The Bulldogs may be welcoming back junior linebacker Jarvis Jones, who was receiving Heisman talk until he was sidelined by an injury. When he is healthy, there may be no other defensive player like him in the country. After getting gashed the past two weeks, Georgia is desperate for a huge defensive performance.

With the major implications in this game, the key will be the play of the quarterback. In that matchup, you have to favor Georgia and Aaron Murray. Look for Murray to make the right plays at the end of the game, and help the Bulldogs give the Gators their first loss on the





NO. 11 MISSISSIPPI STATE AT NO. 1 **ALABAMA**

During Dan Mullen's time in Starkville, Miss., the Bulldogs have played well, but have yet to secure that marquee victory to put themselves on the map. That could change, however, if the Bulldogs are able to go down to Tuscaloosa, Ala., and knock off the No. 1 team in the

country. Alabama, has looked impressive this season. A huge key to that is the emergence of junior quarterback AJ McCarron, who has quietly joined the Heisman race largely due to his ability to avoid mistakes; he ranks first in the country in pass efficiency, and has yet to throw an interception on the season. Previously dubbed a game manager, McCarron has taken off this year and has been flat out dominating, putting on a show in Knoxville, Tenn., last weekend against the Volunteers.

For Mississippi State to have a chance, junior quarterback Tyler Russéll must come out and have the game of his life. The Crimson Tide are so good at stopping the run, that he must be able to complete a couple of shots deep against the Crimson Tide defense.

While the Bulldogs are desperately trying to get that big win, it just does not seem likely Saturday in Tuscaloosa.

Alabama will put out the victory, even though it will be much closer than expected.





MICHIGAN AT NO. 22 NEBRASKA

This is a battle in which the winner is in the driver's seat for the Big Ten's Legends Division, especially if Michigan

The Wolverines are the only bowl-eligible undefeated team in conference play. This matchup will come down to which running quarterback is able to make the necessary plays to get the victory done.

This was supposed to be the season that senior quarterback Denard Robinson emerged as the star of the country, but in his two biggest games of the season, he has struggled. He is, however, more than capable of taking over a game, and will look to do that against the Huskers.

Nebraska is led by their own running quarterback, in Taylor Martinez, who like Robinson, is definitely prone to making mistakes. However, much like Robinson, he is more than capable of taking over a game on the ground, and the Wolverines must take the opportunity to hit Martinez early and often.

The Cornhuskers are coming off a win in which they were able to come back against Northwestern and sneak out a victory. If they want any chance to win the Big Ten, then a win is a must.

In the end, however, Robinson has a big game against the Cornhuskers, and puts the Wolverines in the driver's seat to claim the Big Ten title.





NO. 5 NOTRE DAME AT NO. 8 OKLAHOMA

One of the biggest surprises thus far in the season has been Notre Dame's undefeated record. The team is looking for that marquee victory to put themselves legitimately in the National Championship race.

Behind a stingy defense, led by senior linebacker Manti T'eo, the Fighting Irish have made things nearly impossible for opponents to score. However, they have not yet faced an offense like Oklahoma, which has been rolling on offense after a miserable performance against K-State.

For whatever reason, the Sooners in the past have lost one game a year where they do not come out and play their A-game. Since scoring only 19 points against K-State, senior quarterback Landry Jones has played at an extremely high level, leading the Sooners offense to an average of 52 points the past three games.

This offensive explosion will

make it extremely difficult for Notre Dame to hang with the Sooners.

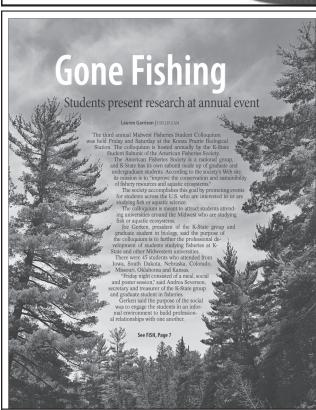
Senior quarterback Everett Golson is back after being medically cleared after suffering a concussion two weeks ago. While Golson has the makings of a talented athlete, he has struggled to get the Notre Dame offense going; it will be interesting to see if junior Tommy Rees replaces him if Golson gets off to a bad start.

This is a huge game for both teams. They both have the opportunity to prove to the country that they are legitimate title contenders. In the Bob Stoops era, the Sooners have only lost one home game to a ranked team, and that of course was the Wildcats three weeks ago.

With that being said, the Sooners are going to come out and take care of business. Look for Oklahoma to win this game going on the road.



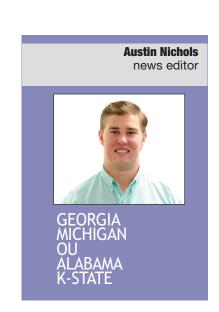




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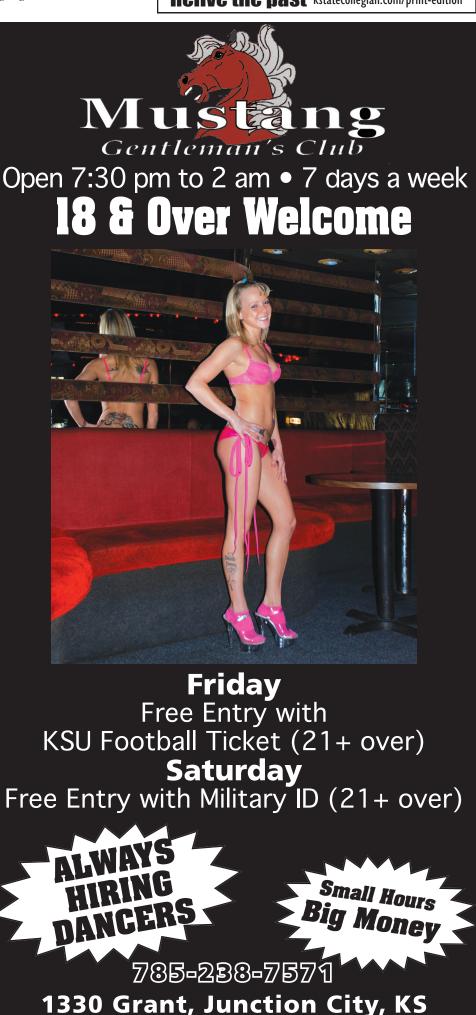












Wildcat defense dominates all facets of game, looks to replicate success

Nicolas Wahl staff writer

Like traveling conquerors, the 2012 K-State defense has traversed the landscape of the Big 12 Conference vanquishing opposing offenses at every stop. No matter the perceived firepower or mode of operation of their opponents, the Wildcats have left every battle the victor in resounding style.

In Norman, Okla., they blitzed, battered and confused former Heisman trophy candidate Landry Jones and the Sooner offense into multiple mistakes and turnovers, holding them to their lowest point total of the season, at 19. In the three games after facing the Wildcats, the Sooners have scored 41, 63 and 52 points re-

spectively.

Three weeks later they out-fought and out-muscled a tough, scrappy Iowa State team in Ames, Iowa to set up a potential showdown in Morgantown W.Va., against the Mountaineers, again facing a Heisman front-runner who commanded an offense that had put points on the board at

a blistering pace. K-State absolutely decimated Geno Smith and the West Virginia offense, holding them scoreless until midway through the fourth quarter, and by that time the score was already 52-7. They held WVU to season lows in yards and points, and when linebacker Arthur Brown picked off Smith on the opening play of the third quarter it was the first interception thrown by the quarterback since December of last year.

Five WVU plays later Ty Zimmerman intercepted Smith again.

"I think our performance is due to our preparation throughout practice and being able to see our performance," said Brown after the win over the Mountaineers. "It is really just the confirmation that we need to continue to be successful throughout the season."

Senior quarterback Collin Klein and the K-State offense have received a majority of the headlines this season, but the defense's resurgence has been nothing less than remarkable. New defensive coordina-tor Tom Hayes' Wildcats are giving up just 16 points per game this year compared to nearly 28 last season.

Klein talks about head coach Bill Snyder's "16 Goals" all the time. The defense embodies them as well.

"I have never been on a team like this before. It is the best thing that coach Snyder does for us. He keeps us levelheaded and makes sure we stay disciplined," said cornerback Nigel Malone. "We come in here after a big win, and we are still going to run wind sprints on Monday.

This was never more evident than during Brown's interception of Smith in the West Virginia game. On the play, defensive back Randall Evans, unable to pick the ball off himself, tipped the ball high in the air allowing Brown to corral it for the turnover. This was the third time this season and Evans' tip has resulted in a

turnover for the opposition.

Though the Wildcats have proven themselves on the road this season, Malone said it is good to be back home.

This Saturday, in front of 50,000 Wildcat fans who sense real national title possibilities for the first time in over a decade, K-State will have the chance to prove just how good they are once again. The Wildcats have not given up more than 21 points to a single op-ponent this season, and Texas Tech head coach Tommy Tuberville's Red Raiders ride into town averaging nearly 43

points a ballgame.

The Red Raiders have changed a bit since the days when former head coach Mike Leach would sail his band of Pirates around the Big 12, carving up defenses with a high-powered passing attack. Texas Tech still likes to throw the ball, averaging over 360 yards passing per game. Their 30 passing touchdowns leads the Big 12, but they are bound to run the ball as well and average 154 rushing yards per

They also play some defense, which Leach's Texas Tech teams were rarely concerned about. This puts a bit more of a burden on the Wildcats' defense to shut down quarterback Seth Doege.

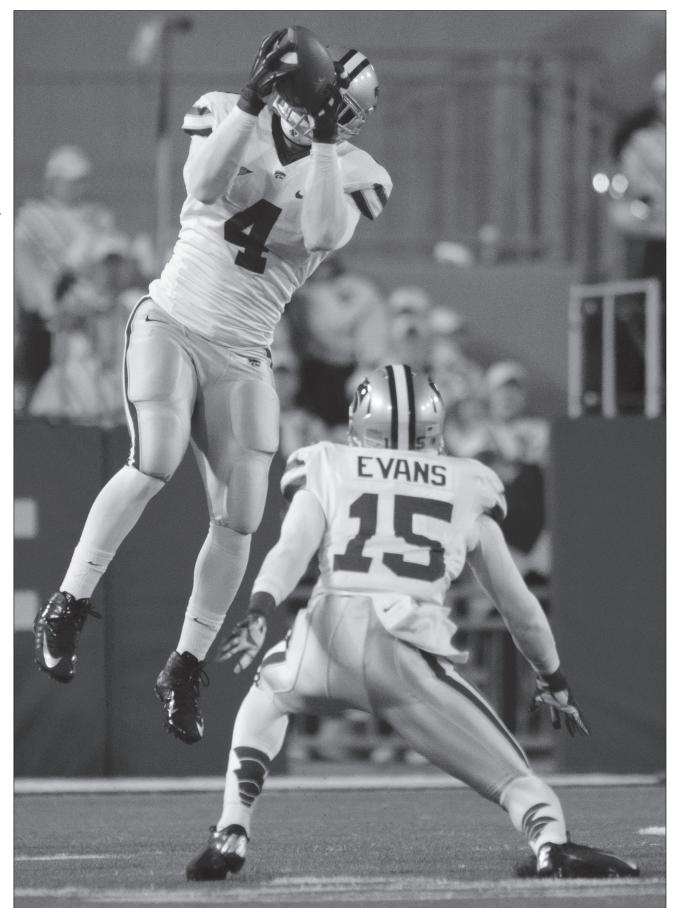
"In some cases, yes, they are similar," Brown said, comparing the Red Raiders to West Virginia. "They have similar styles of offense. The dynamics or the personnel is a little dif-

The K-State defenders have been here before. They have the blueprint: stop the run, pressure the quarterback, limit mistakes and capitalize on their opponents errors. Success lies in the implementa-

"They are becoming more disciplined. We are not where we need to be by any stretch," Snyder said. "We are certainly more and more sound, and I think that comes with a variety of different things, how players respond to what you are trying to do. I do not think there is any time that we have not been sound in terms of our

He praised their recent efforts, but remained focused on the journey ahead.

"I thought that to hold West Virginia to zero scores for 52-and-a-half minutes on defense is really a feather in the hat, but that was last week and

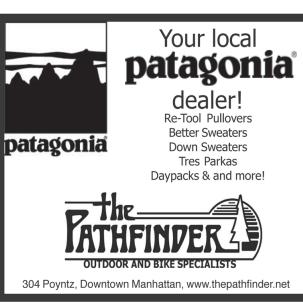


Senior linebacker **Arthur Brown** intercepts a pass by West Virginia's senior quarterback Geno Smith after sophomore defensive back **Randall Evans** tipped the ball during the third quarter of the Wildcats' 55-14 victory over the Mountaineers on Saturday in Morgantown. The interception was the first thrown by Smith on the season.

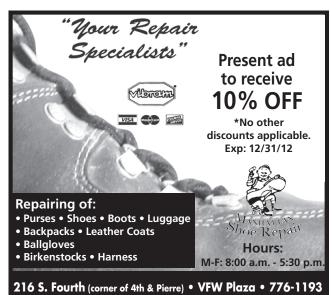
has nothing to do with what second in takeaways on the happens today or this weekend," Snyder said.

The Wildcats are second in the Big 12 in rushing defense, second in sacks, first in fewest penalties committed

Keep getting better every day is the motto, and this weekend, the Wildcats will get another opportunity to continue their bid for a national title.





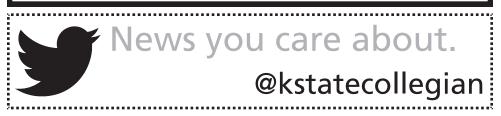




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Heisman Trophy watch: Collin Klein pulls ahead after victory



Tommy Theis | Collegian

K-State quarterback **Collin Klein** and West Virginia quarterback **Geno Smith** shake hands after the Wildcats defeated the Mountaineers 55-14, moving to 7-0 on the season. Klein had seven total touchdowns and has surpassed Smith in the race for the Heisman Trophy.

John Zetmeir staff writer

After his performance against the West Virginia Mountaineers last Saturday, the new Heisman Trophy favorite is K-State senior quarterback Collin Klein. Despite having 40 total touchdowns as a junior, Klein didn't get a lot of Heisman recognition coming into his senior season because he was considered too one-dimensional. As of this week, however, he is the new clear-cut favorite.

Klein made a big statement when he took the Wildcats into Morgantown to take on then-No. 13 West Virginia Mountaineers and arguably had the best game of his career. With seven total touchdowns as well as completing 90.5 percent of his passes and no turnovers, Klein looked like a man possessed.

Through seven games, Klein has passed for 1,397 yards and 10 touchdowns, while completing 70.5 percent of his passes. On the ground, Klein has added 551 yards and 14 touchdowns.

yards and 14 touchdowns.

Despite the eye-popping numbers, Klein's most impressive stat is that he has led the No. 3 K-State Wild-

cats to a perfect record through seven games, which includes road wins against multiple top-25 teams. Klein will have a chance this weekend to continue to pull away from the pack when he takes on the No. 14 ranked Texas Tech Red Raiders.

Is it possible for a player to be under-appreciated because of the talent he has around him? In many cases this is the truth for University of Alabama junior quarterback AJ McCarron. As quarterback of the No. 1 team in the nation, could it be that voters think that he simply has too much around him to be considered a real Heisman contender?

My answer: numbers never lie.

McCarron has completed 68.8 percent of his passes for 1,476 yards and 16 touchdowns. Another number that does not lie is zero, as in the number of interceptions that McCarron has thrown so far this year. Another question mark comes from the schedule that Alabama has played thus far. The Crimson Tide have only faced one ranked team this season so far, but the schedule is about to get a lot more difficult. Alabama will face top-25 teams each of the next three weeks.

Notre Dame's senior linebacker Manti Te'o will just not go away, as many defensive players do when it comes to Heisman talk. As well as leading the No. 5 Fighting Irish in tackles, he also is tied for first in interceptions among linebackers.

Teo has a chance to make a big statement as a legitimate Heisman contender this weekend. With Notre Dame traveling to No. 8 Oklahoma for a square off with one of the best offenses in the country, Teo could put that signature win on his resume.

For the last three to four weeks, West Virginia's senior quarterback Geno Smith has been the heavy Heisman favorite, but that's no longer the case. Through his first five games, Smith had thrown for 24 touchdown passes and zero interceptions.

In his last two games, however, the Mountaineers have been blown out by both Texas Tech and K-State, with Smith unable to put points on the board. With two touchdown passes and two interceptions in the last two games, Smith has almost completely fallen out of the Heisman race.

BCS Poll

TEAM	RECORD
ALABAMA	7-0
FLORIDA	7-0
KANSAS STATE	7-0
OREGON	7-0
NOTRE DAME	7-0
LSU	7-1
OREGON STATE	6-0
OKLAHOMA	5-1
USC	6-1
GEORGIA	6-1
MISSISSIPPI STATE	7-0
FLORIDA STATE	7-1
SOUTH CAROLINA	6-2
TEXAS TECH	6-1
RUTGERS	7-0
LOUISVILLE	7-0
STANFORD	5-2
CLEMSON	6-1
WEST VIRGINIA	5-2
TEXAS A&M	5-2
BOISE STATE	6-1
MICHIGAN	5-2
TEXAS	5-2
OHIO	7-0
WISCONSIN	6-2

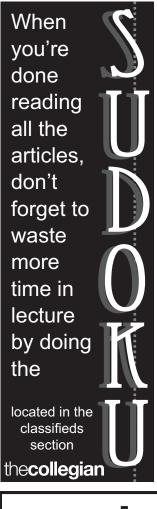


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Breaking down the game with D. Scott Fritchen



Kelly Glasscock | Gol

Mark Kern sports editor

With another big game coming up for the Wildcats, the Collegian did an interview with D. Scott Fritchen of *gopowercat.com* to break down the game.

What has impressed you most about Collin Klein?

"It is his toughness. I hate to sound cliche, but I have never seen a quarterback tougher than him. For the amount of hits he takes and the number of carries he has, to hold on to the ball like he does is amazing. Ell Roberson showed a lot of toughness in the 2003 season, but he missed some time. It is really amazing just to see him continue to fight throughout the whole game."

How is Seth Doege a different quarterback than last year?

"He has a better command of the offense. Just like with Collin, a lot of it just has to deal with the development and another year in the system. He has a wealth of weapons and a confidence from his receivers. Ten guys have a catch this season. He has developed great chemistry with his receivers, and they are really clicking as an offense unit."

Despite slowing down West Virginia two weeks ago, Texas Tech gave up 53 points to TCU, and continually struggled with the zone-read type play. How much could that come into factor against the Red Raiders?

"With the success of Klein and [John] Hubert, the Wildcats are going to start off like they have all year. The line is so determined to opening up holes that the Wildcats can get good yards on the carries. I think you will see K-State from the very beginning try to establish the run, but also be ready to mix in the play-action fake, as Klein has shown that he is feeling more and more comfortable stretching the field vertically."

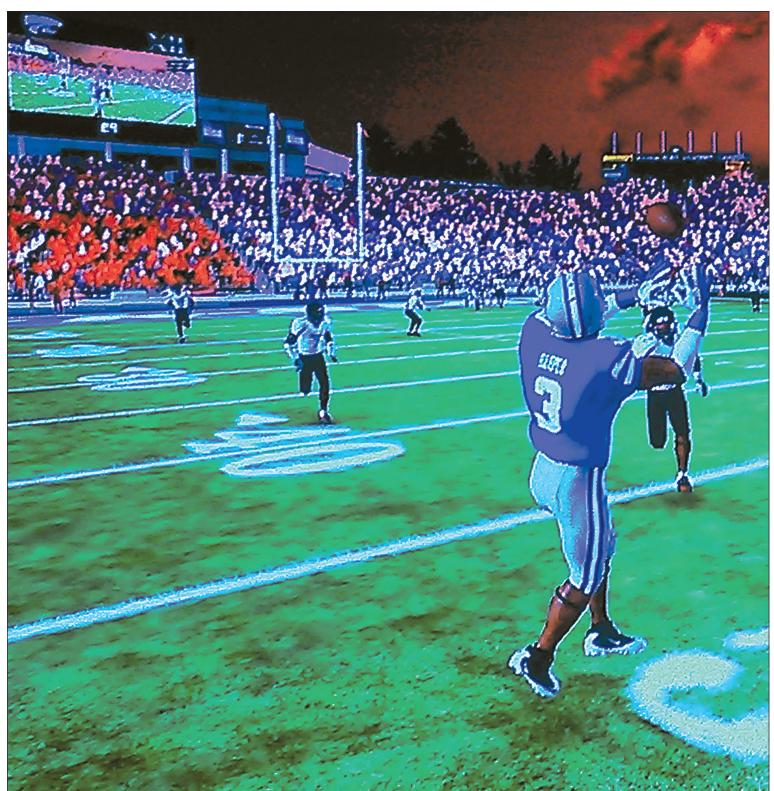
How has the pass defense done such a good job of limiting big plays?

"The zone defense, they don't do a whole lot schematically, but they keep players in front of them. The longest pass play against them in Big 12 play was not against Oklahoma or West Virginia. It was a 31-yard pass by Dayne Crist in the victory over the Jayhawks. The elimination of big plays has been the key component for this year's defense. They also do a great job of shutting teams down in the redzone, making it extremely tough for teams to score by passing the ball down

What is the number one key to slowing down the Red Raiders offense?

"It is constant disruption that K-State has been able to utilize this season. No. 2 in Big 12 this season in sacks, and the tackles for loss. The ability to rattle the quarterback like they did against Geno Smith. Much like the Mountaineers, the Red Raiders are looking to air the ball out a lot, and I think this means K-State will not change a whole lot of their defensive planning. Against an offense like Texas Tech's, you have to be able to get pressure on the quarterback, and the Wildcats have shown the ability to do that on the season."

'NCAA Football 13': Wildcats win in high-scoring affair



screenshot from 'NCAA Football 13'

K-State wide receiver **Chris Harper** hauls in a 90-yard touchdown pass from Heisman candidate quarterback Collin Klein in the first quarter.

Nick Davis staff writer

This week's installment of the "NCAA Football 13" video game simulation has the 14th ranked Texas Tech Red Raiders visiting Manhattan to take on your 3rd ranked, undefeated K-State Wildcats.

The Red Raiders come into the game 6-1 (3-1 in conference play). With both teams coming off road wins against ranked conference foes, the Red Raiders look to crash unbeaten K-State's party and pull off the upset. Will Tech pull off the upset or will the Wildcats march to victory yet again?

Let's see how the video game simulation tells it.

1st Quarter

The Red Raiders win the toss and elect to receive.

Texas Tech quarterback Seth Doege is intercepted by Nigel Malone on the first play of the game. K-State converts on the turnover as quarterback Collin Klein finds wide receiver Chris Harper from 20 yards out for a touchdown, giving the Wildcats an early 7-0 lead. Doege bounces back, however, and hits wide receiver Tyson Williams for a 7-yard touchdown, to tie the game

at 7.

The Wildcats won't be phased however; a 1-yard run by running back John Hubert, and a 90-yard reception for Chris Harper gives the Wildcats a 21-7 lead.

2nd Quarter

At the 12:58 mark quarterback Collin Klein runs for 9 yards and picks up a first down but is assisted off the field due to an apparent injury (don't worry, it's just a video game). K-State kicker Anthony Cantele hits a field goal from 30 yards out and gives K-State a 24-7 advantage.

The Red Raiders respond with back-to-back field goals to cut the deficit to 24-13. Filling in for Klein, quarterback Daniel Sams comes up big with a 46-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Tyler Lockett to give K-State a 31-13 lead. Doege answers with a 33-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Javon Bell to cut the deficit to 31-20.

However, Sams lobs a 75-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Tramaine Thompson, to give the Wildcats a 38-20 lead. Ten straight points by the Red Raiders cuts the halftime deficit to 38-30.

3rd Quarter

K-State is once again first on the board in the second half when Cantele connects on a 33-yard field goal, giving K-State a 41-30 lead. Sams uses his speed and runs in 7 yards deep and scores a touchdown, increasing the K-State lead to 48-30. Backup quarterback Sams also goes down with an injury so we'll now get to see third string quarterback Sam Johnson. Alex Torres hauls in an 18-yard touchdown pass from Doege and pulls Tech closer,

4th Quarter

Wide receiver Darrin Moore catches a 56-yard touchdown pass, but Tech fails the 2-point conversion, K-State leads 48-43. This is the closest the Red Raiders would get as K-State scores 17 unanswered points to pull away from the Red Raiders. The final score: Wildcats 65, Red Raiders 43.

Player of The Game

Daniel Sams comes up huge when his team needed it the most. Sams completed 15 of his 20 passes for 253 yards with 2 touchdowns. He also ran the ball 18 times for 128 yards scoring a touchdown on the ground while backing up injured star Collin Klein.

Play of the Game

Collin Klein connecting with wide-out Chris Harper for a long 90-yard touchdown pass late in the first quarter.

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